

ABSTRACT

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The slope efficiency of a laser diode is determined by temporarily adjusting a current applied to the laser and measuring a corresponding change in the average output power. Such prior art techniques require the laser modulation current average to be small to avoid impairment of transmission of data by the laser diode.

10 An optical attenuator opposite an output of a laser diode resolves this problem by maintaining the average power emitted by the laser diode within acceptable operating limits.

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